



PRESS RELEASE

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IECA SUPPORTS DOE ACTIONS TO RECONDUCTOR EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINES TO INCREASE ELECTRICITY AFFORDABILITY

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, the Industrial Energy Consumers of America (IECA) congratulated the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on its announced investments through the Speed to Power through Accelerated Reconductoring and other Key Advanced Transmission Technology Upgrades, or SPARK, program, originally enabled by the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in 2021.

Paul N. Cicio, President of IECA, made the following statement:

Reconductoring existing transmission lines is our most cost-effective and fastest way to reduce congestion, increase reliability and increase electricity affordability. The SPARK funding will go towards reconductoring or rebuilding over 1,500 miles of transmission infrastructure and deploying grid-enhancing technologies across over 20,000 miles of transmission, ultimately unlocking 23 gigawatts of additional grid capacity.

The Industrial Energy Consumers of America is a nonpartisan association of leading manufacturing companies with \$1.3 trillion in annual sales, over 12,000 facilities nationwide, and with more than 1.9 million employees. One hundred percent of IECA members are manufacturing companies whose competitiveness is largely determined by the cost and reliability of natural gas and electricity. IECA's sole mission is to reduce and avoid energy costs and increase energy reliability through advocacy in Congress and regulatory agencies, such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). IECA membership represents a diverse set of industries including chemicals, plastics, steel, iron ore, aluminum, paper, food processing, defense industries, fertilizer, insulation, glass, industrial gases, pharmaceutical, consumer goods, building products, automotive, independent oil refining, and cement.